

Appl. No. 10/090,601
Atty. Docket No. 8877L
Amdt. dated 04/01/2004
Reply to Office Action of 03/08/2004
Customer No. 27752

REMARKS

Claims 12-15 are allowed in the subject application. Claims 7-10 stand rejected over Garneau Sr (4,218,038). As noted in the Office Action, Garneau Sr. teaches mold cavities which separate from the closed position of Fig. 9 to the open position of Fig. 11.¹

Figs. 9-11 clearly show mold halves with members 33, 34 extending *into the plane of the figure* (perpendicular to the page). The Garneau mold halves do not separate parallel to the direction of the members 33, 34. Instead, as acknowledged by the Office Action, the Garneau mold halves separate in the direction from Fig. 9 (closed) to Fig. 11 (open). This direction is clearly *perpendicular* to the members 33, 34.

In contrast, Claim 7, and the claims which depend therefrom, clearly requires the molds to separate in a direction parallel to the members. Since it is agreed the Garneau Sr. figures separate in the (perpendicular) direction set forth by the Office Action, and Garneau teaches that members 33, 34 extend into the plane of the figure (i.e., *perpendicular* to the direction acknowledged by the Office Action to be the separation direction) Garneau Sr. cannot teach opening in the *parallel* direction as required by Claim 7.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the critical distinction is between the perpendicular separation taught by Garneau Sr. (with the members extending into the plane of the figure) and the parallel separation required by Claim 7. In view of this critical distinction, Claim 7 is neither obvious in light of nor derivable from Garneau Sr.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and allow Claims 7-10. The allowance of Claims 12-15 is again noted with appreciation. Claims 1-6 are now canceled hereunder without prejudice or disclaimer. Claim 11 remains canceled.

If the Examiner feels that any discussion regarding the interpretation of the figures of Garneau would be helpful to the prompt disposal of this case, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at (513) 634-9358. Otherwise, allowance of all remaining claims is respectfully requested.

¹ Applicant respectfully notes that Fig. 10 is an enlarged view of the closed position illustrated in Fig. 9 (2:25-26).

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Customer No. 27752